negotiated with the lowest bidder M/s. CGG Pan India only.

(b) The evaluated price as per the rates quoted by the two bidders at the time of opening of the bids and as per NIT criteria are given below:

(i) M/s CGG Pan India : FRF 20,46,107 = INR 1,13,14,971.47 (1 FRF = Rs. 5.53)

(ii) M/s GECO Prakla Schlumberger subsidiary of *Schlumberger* Group of Comapines) (1 US$ = Rs. 31.61) : US$ 3,12,751.47 (a = *INR 98,86,396.07

*with price preference of 15% admissible to Indian bidders, this amount becomes INR 1,13,69,348.59.

(c) The bid of M/s CGG Pan India was in French Franc and M/s GECO Prakla in US dollar.

(d) Rs. 1170 per shot.

**Out-of-turn allotment of petrol pumps in Andhra Pradesh**

2561. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of petrol pumps sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh on out-of-turn basis during the last three years;

(b) what is the criterion for such allotments; and

(c) what are the names of persons sanctioned petrol pumps on out-of-turn basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Retail outlet dealership are alloted on out-of-turn basis under discretionary powers of the Government in a few deserving cases on compassionate grounds. 12 retail outlet dealerships were allotted in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years on compassionate grounds.

**Fire incidents in ONGC wells**

2562. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of fire at ONGC's wells in Krishna Godavari basin had taken place earlier also;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of damage caused as a result of those incidents; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the organisation is not at all prepared to arrest such incidents, inspite of the fact that such incidents, do take place very often and if so, the reasons therefor and whether responsibility is proposed to be fixed in this regard; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

**Complaints of malpractices by petrol pumps PDS owners and LPG dealers**

2563. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a large numbert of complaints about the malpractices of petrol pump owners, LPG dealers and PDS owners;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last three years and the action taken thereon; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to eliminate such complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) The number of complaints received against retail outlet dealers and LPG distributors during the last three years is given below:—

| Year | Number of Complaints received against | |
|---|---|---|
| | Retail Outlet Dealers | LPG Distributors |
| 1992-93 | 216 | 6797 |
| 1993-94 | 154 | 5399 |
| 1994-95 | 119 | 6453 |

In proven cases of malpractices, actions such as warning, suspension of sales and supplies, termination of dealership/ distributor-ship, etc. were taken under the marketing Dist. Discipline Guidelines against the errant dealers/distributors.

As Public Distribution System is controlled by the State Government, the information regarding the complaints received against the PDS owners is not maintained, by this Ministry.

(c) The MS/HSD Control Order, 1990 and the Marketing Discipline Guidelines are in operation for curbing adulteration/ malpractices in retail outlets. Density checks, filter paper tests and furfural doping tests are carried out to check adulteration. Surprise inspection are made by mobile laboratories.

For retail outlets as well as LPG distributor-ships, regular and surprise inspections are made by field officers of the Oil Companies and State Authorities.

In proven cases of malpractices, punitive action is taken including termination of dealer-ship/distributor-ship under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

**Conversion of rail lines**

2564. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress made so far about the conversion of rail lines into broad-gauge on (i) Solapur-Bijapur, (ii) Miraj-Latur (ii) Daund-Baramati and (iv) Gondia-Chanda Fort, indicating the present stage of implementation, the time by which each one is likely to be completed and the reasons for the delay; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon and the availability of funds therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The progress made so far, the targetted date for completion and reasons for delay of the following gauge conversion projects are as under:—

| | Name of the Project | Progress upto 31.12.94 | Targetted date for Completion | Reasons for Delay |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Solapur-Bijapur | Work which was included in Budget for 1993-94, could not be taken up for want of approval of the Planning Commission. Planning Commission's approval has been received only on 08-03-95. Preliminary arrangements for taking up the work are being made | | |
| 2. | Miraj-Latur | Planning Commission's approval has been received only on 08-02-1995. Preliminary arrangements for taking up the work are on hand | | |
| 3. | Daund-Baramati | Completed and opened to traffic | | |
| 4. | *Gondia-Chanda Fort* | | | |
| | (i) Gondia-Wadsa | Completed | | |
| | (ii) Wadsa-Chanda Fort | 11% | 1996-97 | — |

(b) The anticipated expenditure upto 31.3.95 and the outlay provided for these projects during 1995-96 are as under:—